

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) An interventional tool for repairing a cardiac valve of a patient having leaflets, said tool comprising:

a catheter having a shaft, a proximal portion and a distal portion adapted for placement through vasculature of the patient to a location near the cardiac valve; and

a capture device detachably connected to the catheter having comprising at least one two extendable distal element elements and at least two extendable proximal elements, wherein the at least two extendable distal elements and the at least two extendable proximal elements are disposed near the distal portion of said shaft and held in a retracted position adjacent to the shaft, and

wherein the at least one two extendable distal element elements and the at least two extendable proximal elements are independently deployable and self-expand in an outward radial direction from the shaft to a deployed position further away from the shaft than the first position and to positions in between the retracted position and the deployed position, so as to capture the valve leaflets between the at least two extendable distal elements and the at least two extendable proximal elements, has a first position disposed adjacent to the shaft and a second position deployed in an outward direction from the shaft, and at least one proximal element disposed proximal to the at least one distal element, wherein the at least one proximal element has a first position adjacent to the shaft and a second position deployed in an outward direction from the shaft and wherein the at least one distal element and at least one proximal element are adapted to capture the valve leaflets.

2. (cancelled)

3. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one distal element~~ has two distal elements each have a length extending from the shaft to a tip of ~~the at least two distal elements~~ the at least one distal element, wherein the length is adjustable by deployment of the at least ~~one distal element~~ two distal elements.
4. (cancelled)
5. (cancelled)
6. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements and the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements are adapted to atraumatically capture the valve leaflets.
7. (currently amended) A device as in claim 6, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements and/or the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements further include a frictional accessory.
8. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements and/or the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements is are adapted to be adjusted angularly after capturing the valve leaflets to adjust the position of the leaflets.
9. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least two distal ~~portion comprises two distal elements~~ are disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.
10. (currently amended) A device as in claim 9, wherein the at least two distal elements are simultaneously deployable.
11. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements comprises two proximal elements are disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.

12. (currently amended) A device as in claim 11, wherein the at least two proximal elements are simultaneously deployable.

13. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements and/or the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements have a loop shape when deployed.

14. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements and/or the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements are comprised of stainless steel, metals, nitinol, shape-memory alloy, polymer, silk, polyester, nylon or a combination of these thereof.

15. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements and the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements are adapted to fixedly hold the leaflets as captured.

16. (cancelled)

17. (currently amended) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements are configured to be disposed within the edges of the corresponding at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements when both the at least ~~one~~ two proximal ~~element~~ elements and corresponding at least ~~one~~ two distal ~~element~~ elements are in a deployed position.

18. (currently amended) A method of repairing a cardiac valve of a patient having leaflets, said method comprising:

providing an interventional tool ~~including~~ comprising a catheter having a shaft, a proximal portion, a distal portion and a capture device detachably connected to the catheter, the capture device comprising at least two extendable distal elements and at least two extendable proximal elements wherein the at least two extendable distal elements and the at least two extendable proximal elements are disposed near the distal portion of said shaft and held in a retracted position adjacent to the shaft, and

~~detachably connected to the catheter, the capture device having at least one distal element and at least one proximal element;~~

advancing the distal portion through the vasculature to ~~the~~ a location near the cardiac valve; and

deploying the at least ~~one~~ two extendable distal elements and the at least two extendable proximal elements so the extendable proximal and distal elements self-expand either independently or together, in an outward radial direction from the shaft to a deployed position further away from the shaft than the retracted position or to positions therebetween so as to capture the valve leaflets; and distal element and the at least one proximal element independently of each other so that the valve leaflets are captured therebetween; and

detaching the capture device from the interventional tool while said shaft is in the vasculature of the patient.

19. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein the deploying step comprises advancing the at least one two distal element elements or the at least one two proximal element elements outwardly from the shaft.

20. (currently amended) A method as in claim 19, wherein the at least one two distal element has elements each have a length extending from the shaft to a tip of the at

least ~~one~~ two distal element elements, and wherein deployment of the at least one two distal element elements adjusts the length.

21. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein the deploying step comprises angularly moving the at least one two distal element elements and/or the at least ~~one~~ two proximal element elements so that the at least one two distal element elements and/or the at least one two proximal element ~~forms~~ elements form an angle with the shaft.

22. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, further comprising angularly adjusting the at least one two proximal element elements and/or the at least one two distal element elements after capturing the valve leaflets to adjust the position of the leaflets.

23. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein ~~deploying the at least one distal element comprises deploying two distal elements wherein each distal element is~~ the at least two distal elements are disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.

24. (currently amended) A method as in claim 23, wherein deploying the at least two distal elements comprises simultaneously deploying the at least two distal elements.

25. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, wherein ~~deploying the at least one proximal element comprises deploying two proximal elements wherein each of the at least two proximal element~~ elements are is disposed on opposite sides of the shaft.

26. (currently amended) A method as in claim 25, wherein deploying the at least two proximal elements comprises simultaneously deploying the at least two proximal elements.

27. (currently amended) A method as in claim 18, further comprising retracting the at least one two distal element elements and/or the at least one two proximal element elements.

28. (currently amended) A method as in claim 27, further comprising repositioning the capture device in relation to the leaflets and redeploying the at least one two distal element elements and the at least one two proximal element so that the valve leaflets are captured therebetween.

29. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising evaluating the cardiac valve for regurgitation while the leaflets are captured.

30. (original) A method as in claim 18, further comprising fixing the captured leaflets in place.

31. (cancelled)

32. (new) A device as in claim 1, wherein the at least two extendable distal elements and/or the at least two extendable proximal elements are held in the retracted position under tension.

33. (new) A device as in claim 32, wherein the tension is provided by a strand of material coupled to the at least two extendable distal elements and/or the at least two proximal elements.

34. (new) A device as in claim 33, wherein the strand of material comprises a suture.

35. (new) A method as in claim 18, wherein the at least two extendable distal elements and/or the at least two extendable proximal elements are held in the retracted position under tension.

36. (new) A method as in claim 35, wherein the step of deploying the at least two extendable distal elements and the at least two proximal elements comprises releasing the tension.

37. (new) A method as in claim 35, wherein the tension is provided by a strand of material coupled to the at least two extendable distal elements and/or the at least two proximal elements.

38. (new) A method as in claim 37, wherein the strand of material comprises a suture.